

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SNAR, MX

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS: EPIDEMIOLOGICAL STUDY

REF: A. STATE 160425 B. MEXICO 6111

1. WE HAVE GIVEN CAREFUL CONSIDERATION TO THE CHANGES SUGGESTED BY DR. BELSASSO IN THE DRAFT LETTER SENT IN REF A AND PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING EXPLANATION FOR YOU TO USE IN FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WITH DR. BELSASSO.

1. WITH REGARD TO THE PROPOSED CHANGES IN PARA 1 (A) AND (B), REF B, THE AID FUNDS WHICH WOULD BE USED TO FINANCE THE EPIDEMIOLOGICAL STUDY ARE SPECIFICALLY ALLOCATED FOR AND LIMITED TO PROGRAMS TO FURTHER WORLDWIDE EFFORTS TO CURB THE TRAFFIC OF ILLEGAL NARCOTICS ACROSS INTERNATIONAL
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BORDERS. WE BELIEVE THAT THE SPECIFIC PROPOSAL FOR A TWO

YEAR EPIDEMIOLOGICAL STUDY WHICH RESULTED FROM THE CONSULTATION BETWEEN THE RESOURCE PLANNING CORPORATION AND CEMEF WOULD FURTHER THAT OBJECTIVE BY CONTRIBUTING DIRECTLY TO OUR KNOWLEDGE OF BASIC CONDITIONS IN THE FIELD OF CONCERN TO JOINT, ONGOING US/MEXICAN ANTI-NARCOTICS EFFORTS. THEREFORE, WE CAN PROVIDE FUNDS ONLY FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE EPIDEMIOLOGICAL STUDY. HOWEVER, AS A PRACTICAL MATTER WE RECOGNIZE, AND YOU MAY WISH TO POINT OUT TO BELSASSO, THAT THE PROPOSED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE WOULD PRESUMABLY ALSO

BENEFIT CEMEF PERSONNEL IN THE FIELD OF SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH METHODS.

3. WITH REGARD TO THE CHANGES SUGGESTED BY PARA 1 (C) AND (D), WE FEEL IT IMPORTANT THAT IT BE CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD THAT THE NARCOTICS CONTROL PROGRAM, WHICH THE UNITED STATES AND MEXICO ARE WORKING TOGETHER TO CARRY OUT AND OF WHICH THE PROPOSED GRANT IS A PART, IS ULTIMATELY THE RESPONSIBILITY OF OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS. THEREFORE, THE AGREEMENT SHOULD MAKE CLEAR THAT SAODAP AND CEMEF ARE ACTING FOR THEIR RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS TO IMPLEMENT AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN GOVERNMENTS. IT WOULD APPEAR FROM YOUR COMMENTS REGARDING THE EXCHANGE OF DIPLOMATIC NOTES THAT BELSASSO HAS BEEN PERSUADED ON THIS POINT AND PRESUMABLY WOULD AGREE TO THE ORIGINAL US LANGUAGE.

4. PLEASE ADVISE BELSASSO OF THE REASONS FOR OUR CHOICE OF LANGUAGE. RUSH

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